

# THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES

ADOPTED: August 21, 2014

REVISED:

<p>1. Purpose</p> <p>2. Definition</p> <p>3. Authority</p> <p>Policy 815</p>	<p>237. USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES</p> <p>The School Reform Commission adopts this policy to maintain an educational environment that is safe and secure for district students and employees. Further, the SRC recognizes that certain electronic devices can be used for educational purposes.</p> <p><b>Electronic devices</b> shall include all devices that can take photographs; record, play, or edit audio or video data; store, transmit or receive messages or images; or provide a wireless, unfiltered connection to the Internet. Examples of these electronic devices include, but shall not be limited to, radios, walkman player, CD players, iPods, MP3 players, DVD players, handheld game consoles, Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs), cellular telephones, smart phones, laptop computers, as well as any new technology developed with similar capabilities, and pagers and beepers.</p> <p>APPROVED USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES</p> <p>Electronic devices that can connect to the internet may be used in a classroom or educational related activities and/or in approved locations under the supervision of professional staff for educational purposes only. The SRC prohibits use of all electronic devices by students in locker rooms, bathrooms, and other changing areas. All use will be in line with the expectations set forth in the Student Code of Conduct and the Acceptable Use Policy (815). Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary or criminal action. .</p> <p>The District will provide filtered internet access for educational purposes for students use in accordance with the Children’s Internet Protection Act and the Acceptable Use Policy (815).The District is not capable of filtering content for students using non-district network access, such as cellular smart phone networks. Parent/guardians assume all responsibility for unfiltered access to the internet via non-district internet connections.</p> <p>The District shall not be liable for the loss, damage or misuse of any electronic device brought to school by a student; possessed/used during the school day; in/on district buildings, district property, district vehicles or contracted vehicles; during transport to/from school; while attending school-sponsored activities during the school day; and/or any/all school-sponsored activities generally. The district will</p>
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<p>SC 1317.1</p> <p>Guidelines Pol 218,226,233</p> <p>4. Delegation of Responsibility</p> <p>SC 1317.1</p>	<p>provide no technical support, troubleshooting, or repair for personal electronic devices. Use of electronic devices for photography and/or recording may only occur when authorized by the building principal, district administration, or designated professional staff members for the purposes of participation in educational activities.</p> <p><b>UNAUTHORIZED USE OF ELECTRONIC DEVICES</b></p> <p><u>Electronic Images And Photographs</u></p> <p>The SRC prohibits the taking, storing, disseminating, transferring, viewing, or sharing of obscene, pornographic, lewd, or otherwise illegal images or photographs, whether by electronic data transfer or other means including, but not limited to, texting and e-mailing.</p> <p>Because such violations may constitute a crime under state and/or federal law, the district may report such conduct to state and/or federal law enforcement agencies.</p> <p>Administrators shall confiscate devices implicated in this electronic data transfer and immediately contact law enforcement when possession or distribution of such images is discovered or reasonably suspected. The confiscated item shall not be returned until a conference has been held with a parent/guardian. Audio and videotaping shall be consistent with state/federal laws. Recording anyone without their knowledge and permission is prohibited and may be punishable under federal, state and local laws.</p> <p><u>Entertainment Devices</u></p> <p>The following types of devices may not be used for entertainment purposes during the school day and can only be used as part of an educational related activity: radios, walkman players, CD players, Ipods, MP3 players, DVD players, handheld game consoles, beepers or pagers. Using any of these prohibited items may result in disciplinary action.</p> <p>The Superintendent or designee shall annually notify students, parents/guardians and employees about the SRC's electronic device <b>policy</b>.</p> <p><b>The Superintendent</b> or designee shall <b>develop</b> administrative procedures to implement this policy.</p> <p><b>EXCEPTIONS</b></p> <p>The building administrator may grant approval for possession and use of a telephone paging device/beeper by a student for the following reasons:</p>
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1. Student is a member of a volunteer fire company, ambulance or rescue squad.
2. Student has a need due to the medical condition of an immediate family member.
3. Other reasons determined appropriate by the building principal.

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 510, 1317.1

Home Rule Charter – 12-300

School Reform Commission Policy – 113, 122, 123, 218, 226, 233, 815

School Reform Commission Policy 815